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A STORY-BY JEANNE MARIE. Translated for the Era, by Dr. Edwin A. Atlee

IN THE ARTIST'S EXIMBITION ROOM. There was unusual stir in the Exhibition

Variegated groups passed to and fro in the galleries: some, curious and superficial, looked transiently on the walls hung with the best works of the new master; some giving best works of the new master; some giving judgment aloud prematurely, or repeating after others, but displaying little true interest or taste for the art. Only here and there might be seen one, absorbed in the contemplation of a peculiarly successful representation, forgetting all the surrounding ones. To these be-longed Erika, who had come with Glöben once more before her journey, which she thought she had fully concluded on, and stood beside Seraphine, before Müller's Madonna. She knew that the young painter was the brother of the preacher, the fire of whose eloquence had so wonderfully animated her.

Ah, how proud must be the mother of the two sons, how happy!" said she, turning to Count Sternhof, who had come up to the group. Do you know if she is still living, and when Sternhof blushed. "No," answered he,

am not initiated in the circumstances of the family, who are so happy as to excite your in-"The woman is to be envied," continued Erika, without heeding Sternhof. "What en-

thusiasm there must be in the possession of such children. She has a demand on the gratitude of the world." Very many mothers of such talented mer

are so simple," said Seraphine, "that they do not know how to value their worth." Still I would like their simplicity, their unassuming pretensions would seem so much the more engaging," affirmed Erika.

At this moment two persons came into the room, now almost vacant—an elderly female on the arm of a young, handsome man—and Stern-hof as well as Erika felt electrically moved. That is he." sounded in the soul of the maiden who remained immovable by the frame to which the new comers were approaching. Sternhof withdrew a few steps. He felt that his mother had discovered him, and feared some imprudence on her part. Gladly would be have secreted himself in the adjoining hall, but he had to remain as the protector of the young ladies while the Minister's lady wandered on with her nephew, who this day had good rea-

Erika knew not whether the strangers had like music in her ears, was heard near her "There, dear mother, here they have placed Edmund's painting," said Adrian to Mrs. Mül-

to speak to Scraphine, and she sought to con-ceal her emotion in consequence of this accidental meeting, by appearing to be taken up with the sight of her son's greatly admired paintquaintance with the artist's mother, turned to-wards her, and looked so full of sympathy into her face, that Mrs. Müller, uninvited, asked i she also felt herself spoken to by this devout

countenance.
"I bow before the artist who produced it,

Adrian cast an observant look on Erika. seemed as if he had seen the face once before and suddenly it occurred to him that those were the same eyes that in church read him words from the soul, and whose glances rested on him like sunlight. Who might she be, this admirably magnificent appearance? Erika read the query in his manner.

"I wish, as soon as it shall please him, to acquainted with one who, whether poet, artist, or other man, has so affected me, that I would that I desire to become known to him. Alas, I fear such wish will remain unfulfilled, since the most distinguished men are the most re-

riosity too oft annoy them," observed Erika.

"My son, for I am the mother of the young artist, is shy and reserved, yet without pride or Because perhaps he fears the wounds which

praise itself inflicts on the artist," said Erika. Who can realize the acute feelings of an art

"I call that man peculiarly happy, to whom nature has given an indication where his efforts are to be exerted; to whom she has imparted a decided talent, and withal has obviated any error on his part," said Adrian, join-ing in the conversation. "I might even assert that such a gift is dormant in every man, and that with many there requires only an occa-sion to call it forth. Wherefore the artist owes two-fold thanks to nature and the circumstances in which he is born, for the gift and the consciousness of it.

"You believe, then, in an equal distribution of talents, and that our own weakness and uselessness lie in wrong application and want of self-knowledge," asked Erika.

Or in a wrong state of life," answered Adrian. "How many, if born in another place, in a different situation, would have performed things great and glorious; whereas, in their confined sphere of action they are compelled to labor against their inclination. Specially do we find this the case with artists, who in their struggles with poverty and unkind usage, have oft carried distinguishing talents to the grave ! !

Baler noticed with embarrassment that Erika spun out the conversation with his brother, the thread of which was not soon likely to be broken, as she tarried long in his mother's com-pany. In the presence of the latter, she show-ed remarkable restlessness. Her desire to speak to him conflicted with the fear of incurring his displeasure, and as he seemed cold and indifferent, she believed she read in his behavour a signal for similar strangeness, and compelled herself to strict submission. Seraphine is like Baler, and was equally reserved. The company were now standing before a vast painting, "An assembly of criminals in church." The expressions in their hardened, cunning, passion-distracted features, at the discourse of the preacher, were displayed with master

But what grief, to have knocked in vain at But what grief, to have knocked in vain at their closed feelings, and to see the words of doracy?

The conversation again turned on the set.

In conversation again turned on the art, and Adrian spoke disparagingly of it, apparently with deprecating opposition, as if he designed to consure the masterly performance, and wished to have the art banished from the world; to remove its turpitude, and banish the artists to the kingdom of ridicule, and never more hurt his eyes with their labored imitations.

"Now, since you percent shave grown out of a forcible attempt to bring us together, it is therefore your duty to take such steps, by way of prevention, as will secure us from an exposition of our relationship.

"In reference to this point, I presume we are united, and now pass to a second, the main drift of this letter, and which concerns us alone.

"Do not believe that I could be so hard and "Do not bel

tions.

Erika and Mrs. Müller partially assented,

ments of beholders, I feel humbled for the art-ist, who breathes out in colors the history of his ist, who breathes out in colors the history of his ist, who breathes out in colors the history of his it will be easy for us still to maintain an aplove and his sufferings, as he resigns it to the

the performer restrains our free judgment, limits our criticism, and embitters our pleasure

into the mysteries of the performance, when it pains us to express delight in the finished exe-"You are right. It were unwise to intrude cution as a whole; to disjoint its parts and pry into its source, that which awakens every thought within us, without our being able to explain its origin.

There certainly requires great strength of mind," remarked Adrian, "to encumber our-selves with the burden of knowledge, in the waste of the best powers of life, and not to sink inder it. While at one time we are by zealus search convinced of our own insignificance, we again find so immense a field of labor expanding before us, that our eye looks in vain for a boundary. And thus it is with every science. This, however, is the spirituality of it, that it is infinite, this is the evidence of its

Erika had forgotten her company, and would have continued longer in conversation with Adrian, if now, to Baler's comfort and relief, "No, m the Minister's lady and her nephew had not joined the group. Adrian took his leave as I dare not suffer your honor and mine to soon as he perceived the company he was in, and who the lady was with whom he had been of more value than that I should deliver myself conversing so much and so earnestly. He led as mother, who had to support herself on him "I could dwell longer on this lest she should sink, to an adjoining room. Her painful situation did not escape her son, but the heat of the room and bustle of people around him were sufficient to account for it; and Mrs. Müller was thankful for this accident, preventing the foreible reading of her

"That was really young Müller, who lately course have the victory.'

Erika; "then we might hope to hear him oc-casionally, whereas he would be lost to us on the manor of Reichsfeld."

These words were spoken in so low a tone, that the Lady von Hochstein had no suspicion that a star had suddenly risen on the life's firmament of her adopted daughter. She was rather led by Erika's conduct to a false conclusion; for, thoroughly radiated and warmed, she also cast a glance at Count Sternhof, who appeared unusually sad and gloomy. But she unintentionally disappointed him, as her only wish was to make him happy, while happy her-

"It is strange that thou hast so great a likeness to young Müller," said Glöben, inflexibly persevering in this assertion, and thereby reone over, or remained standing. She had not newing Sternhof's ill temper, which had belooked about, when the voice, that still sounded gun to evaporate by Erika's blooming lovelilooked about, when the voice, that still sounded gun to evaporate by Erika's blooming lovelilike way from till generate the perlooked about, when the voice, that still sounded gun to evaporate by Erika's blooming lovelilooked about, when the voice, that still sounded gun to evaporate by Erika's blooming lovelilooked about, when the voice, that still sounded gun to evaporate by Erika's blooming lovelilooked about, when the voice, that still sounded gun to evaporate by Erika's blooming lovelilooked about, when the voice, that still sounded gun to evaporate by Erika's blooming lovelilooked about, when the voice, that still sounded gun to evaporate by Erika's blooming lovelilooked about, when the voice, that still sounded gun to evaporate by Erika's blooming lovelilooked about, when the voice, that still sounded gun to evaporate by Erika's blooming lovelilooked about, when the voice, that still sounded gun to evaporate by Erika's blooming lovelilooked about, when the voice, that still sounded gun to evaporate by Erika's blooming lovelilooked about, when the voice, that still sounded gun to evaporate by Erika's blooming lovelilooked about, when the voice, that still sounded gun to evaporate by Erika's blooming lovelilooked about, when the voice is the still sounded gun to evaporate by Erika's blooming lovelilooked about, when the voice is the still sounded gun to evaporate by Erika's blooming lovelilooked about, when the voice is the still sounded gun to evaporate by Erika's blooming lovelilooked about, when the voice is the still sounded gun to evaporate by Erika's blooming lovelilooked about, when the voice is the still sounded gun to evaporate by Erika's blooming lovelilooked about, when the voice is the still sounded gun to evaporate gun to evaporat striking to-day, when the man is not in his robe. Truly, if he wore a beard, as thou dost, on would be mistaken one for the other."

Erika could not see the resemblance, for she ion. In her view, Müller was a man too dif-erent from Sternhof to be able to fix a resemblance between them. She moreover fett not disposed to dispute with Glöben on this point. The tone of levity in which the latter proceeded to speak of a person, to describe whom she would herself have failed for language, offended her. She would have passed from a theme too serious to be trifled with, and breathed more freely when she left the picture gallery, nd rolled home alone in her carriage, As, several days before, Count Eisheim found

his daughter in carnest thought, the alteration in her manner did not escape him. "My dear child," said he, "I said a word or two about our approaching journey, and they are teazing me with invitations for next week, which as yet I have neither declined nor accepted. First, the Duke Reichsfeld wishes us to spend a so-ciable evening with him; and as thou hast recently expressed the desire to be acquainted with the young preacher, Müller, I believe such with the young preacher, Muller, I believe such an evening would be very agreeable to thee, when thou canst to thy heart's content dispute and philosophize, without being annoyed by invitations to dance, which are so unpleasant to thee; for Hyppolith's governor will not fail

Erika listened very attentively. "The Duke is very kind," said she, "and we cannot with propriety suffer this invitation to be set aside. am glad of that evening."

PROPOSITIONS.

Baler was rejoiced when he no longe breathed the atmosphere of his mother, and was freed from the everlasting raillery and torment of Glöben. With a loud sigh himself, as usual on a sofa, and sank into deep meditation. The muscles of his face twitched

"It cannot, must not remain thus," said h half aloud: " the annovance of this unnatura state of things undermines my health. Besides how can I change it without making myself an object of open remark and critical judgment, without appearing heartless and double minded? Must I suffer any one who may think proper, to doubt of the legitimacy of my birth, and of the record of my baptism? I not by such a step most deeply degrade my-self?" Baler shuddered at the thought, that he who had, till now, been the distinguished, rich Count, of whose origin no man doubted, whose name none dared to attack, who belonged to the most ancient in the land-that all these advantages with which fortune favored him should be subject to suspicion.

And Erika, the proud Countess Eisheim, that she should know his weak side, who as it were gray hair, to the toe of his well-polished boot

"DEAR MOTHER: The excitements to which

rokes.
Erika's looks met those of Adrian. "What Compulsion in leve is humbling, degrading: a triumph to rescue these lost souls, and lead them back to goodness!"

and forced gifts can never satisfy. A delicate-ly susceptible man is rather offended by them:

Erika and Mrs. Müller partially assented, and the conference became more animated.

"When I reflect what pain and delight, what ambitious hopes and bitter disappointments, these works enkindle in the breast of the artist," said Erika, "and compare them with the heedless censures and arrogant judg-

parent distance, a quiet indifference, in presence of the ignorant and uninitiated. We shall no longer cast down our eyes with the painful

> adherence to the views expressed, I declare before them in a false light. The world is wicked and knavish; it might bring into ques-

> "No, mother. I dare not see you and myself exposed to the assaults of slanderous tongues;

"I could dwell longer on this subject-could

terchange, and your heart were not fully satisfied, I am willing, as soon as I have your suffrage, to hire a room in the suburb, where we "That was really young Müller, who lately preached in the cathedral," said the Minister's lady, when he had withdrawn. "I congratulate thee on this interesting acquaintance. Dost thou know that it is said the vacant place of village preacher is to be given him? The Duke wishes it; and notwithstanding Prince Reichsfeld is much opposed, the former will of course have the victory."

That was really young Müller, who lately frage, to hire a room in the suburb, where we can see and converse with each other any lour of the day. I shall depend on your wish in regard to the day on which you may wish to see me, and will also beg you to appoint the hour at which such interview may most suitably take place, without danger of discovery. As indeed I am alone, but not independent of a thousand little but important calls in society, That would be very agreeable to me," said you will find my desires reasonable, and will the rather yield to them, since in this manner only an undisturbed interview is possible. Soon as I have your answer, I will proceed to the accomplishment of my plan, and let you know the situation and number of the

house that shall be designated for our visit in When Baler sealed this letter, and delivered t himself at the post office, he was in a better state of mind. He believed that he had thus cleared his conscience, and was convinced that Mrs. Müller would coincide with his wishes, and give up her own. He supposed her to be too ignorant of the great city, and too timid, to walk so far without an attendant; and if she were to reject his proposal, nothing would re-main for him to do, and no reproach would beler had hardly read the conningly planned letter of her son, ere she was prepared for all. multitude, were of indifference to her, if only she could succeed in reconciling Baler to an interview with his kindred, and she ceased not to hope for a satisfactory result of his frequent verbal promises. She therefore wrote him the

"I wait thy determination, my son, and hope see thee soon. No distance is too great for me, that brings me nearer to my aim.

Baler saw himself caught in his own net, and new time of uneasiness broke in upon him. TO BE CONTINUED.

For the National Era SOLOMON PEPPERELL'S THANKSGIVING

'Squire Pepperell was a well-kept man—an exceedingly well-kept man, and a rather well-

favored man, too, as no one would deny, that saw him, as he leaned over his front gate on Thanksgiving evening, and watched the car-Thanksgiving evening, and watched riage that bore his only son and heir back to the busy life of the city. True, he was swar-thy, almost as an Indian, and there was a hardness about the lines of his face that might suggest to a person of sensitive nerves and quick apprehension, the idea of dogged obstinacy, not to say cruelty, and a striking fullness about the ears and throat, that reminded one of the animal; but, then, such people run away with a thousand fancies, and Squire Pepperell was a very respectable man.

He had been keeping Thanksgiving that

day, and certainly no man among us had more reason to be thankful. At least, so said the good gossips, as they referred to the time when ne had started in the world, with only the clothes on his back, and those none of the best, and compared it with his present position; and, certes, if success in the accumulation of property be the criterion of prosperity, they were right; or, if a keen, shrewd brain, a heart of stone, a conscience of the accommodating qualities of gutta percha, and a hand of iron, are to be set down as the choicest gifts in God's great catalogue of blessings, then they were right. He had never doubted, or rather, in the whole sixty years of his existence, had never given himself time to doubt but what they were, and actually seemed to think that, in working out the problem of life, with money for a quotient, he was fulfilling the highest destiny of man.

Yes, he was a very respectable man; every thing about him, from the bold region of self esteem and firmness, which rose like cold, snow-covered promontories from a sea of stiff ironsees through him—how unsparingly would she touch the galled spots! No; he would never give matter for public derision, witty bon mots, and satirical comparisons; therefore resolved to prepare the following letter:

"Dear Mother: The excitements to which to be should not be should not be should not be supported by the same and the satirical comparisons; therefore resolved to prepare the following letter:

"Dear Mother: The excitements to which to be should not be supported by the same and the sa accidents subject us are too hazardous to our mutual health, and the quiet of our min's, net to be of weightiest moment, and require some seats in church, and had, at several times dumutual health, and the quiet of our min's, net to be of weightiest moment, and require some method of obviating them.

"As you have not given me a second invitation to visit you, I am convinced that, after mature consideration, you assent to my views, and esteem it most advisable to suffer no kindred approximation to take place between me and my brothers and sister. You will have seen the advantage to both parties thereby, and that what maternal tenderness could not at first discover has been shown to the prudent, judicious woman, to be most suitable, dent, judicious woman, to leave under some seats in church, and had, at several times during late years, manifested quite an interest in the subject of religion; so much so, that several times during late years, manifested quite an interest in the subject of religion; so much so, that several times during late years, manifested quite an interest in the subject of religion; so much so, that several times during late years, manifested quite an interest in the subject of religion; so much so, that several times during late years, manifested quite an interest in the subject of religion; so much so, that several times during late years, manifested quite an interest in the subject of religion; so much so, that several times during late years, manifested quite an interest in the subject of religion; so much so, that several times during late years, manifested quite an interest in the subject of religion; so much so, that several times during late years, manifested quite an interest in the subject of religion; so much so, that several times during late years, manifested quite an interest in the subject of religion; so much so, that several times during late years, manifested quite an interest in the subject of re been obtained. But these were old-fashioned been obtained. But these were old-fashioned people, whose notions of right and wrong were as old-fashioned and musty as themselves; therefore, few heeded their words. Besides, 'Squire Pepperell was so "public-spirited'—at least, so the younger and more ambitious por-

least, so the younger and more ambitious por-tion of our community asserted; and who does not know that the possession of the somewhat indefinite virtues included under that general head, cover a multitude of private sins? "Hadn't the 'Squire subscribed more than any one else towards the new graveyard fence; and hadn't he said, repeatedly, that if Jem Morgan would only pull down or move off his forlorn-looking eld barn near the south corner of the common by the bridge, that he would of the common, by the bridge, that he would level the spot, plant it with shade trees, and build a new bridge at his own expense, if the town would not move in the matter? And hadn't his son, Mr. William, sent a handsome

ments of beholders, I feel humbled for the art- tates of prudence, my reason enjoins submission; William Miner, and Deacon Dedley, say to Colonel about her, for it pears to me he gets such undeniable proofs of the Squire's "pub- more and more light-headed every day." lic spirit" as these, even if he had, as no one pretended to deny, kept a grog shop in days gone by, and sold rum to his neighbors, until their fine farms passed into his hands, and they and their children into the street or almsward representation of the soul's inward life is defective, if we could compare both, we might have a twofold perception of the weakness of the copyist, somewhat as he himself has if he not vain and blinded. Our sympathy with the performer restrains our free indepent. ourselves that we have chosen what is right, with what is best in our view.

"Still, what it will be our duty to abstain from before the world, we can practice and enjoy in private, in undisturbed retirement together. The purest happiness is that which is unobserved by the world. Why shall we expose ours to every eye? Too sensitive to impose ours to every eye? Too sensitive to impose the world with the majority; for we would not wish to have it inferred that anything could stop old and wind with the majority; for we would not wish to have it inferred that anything could stop old and erazier every day—and, between them both, they say some queer things."

"No wonder," returned Mary Dinnies, mu-

> Never, perhaps, had 'Squire Pepperell's poputhem in writing; not, as you may perhaps sup-pose, that selfish considerations hinder me from val day. The one drop needed to fill his cup openly wing myself the son of my mother, the brother of her children. They are quite different motives that lead and direct my conduct. Solicitude for the reputation of every had very unexpectedly been elected to Conone nearest my heart causes me to appear even gress. That son had, for the first time for many years, come home to eat his festival dinner at his father's table. He ald duly attendtion your spodess parity, of which I am con-ed church, where his ready recognition of old vinced, and I could not bear to see your honor vinced, and I could not bear to see your honor touched. Entangled in endless quarrels, I might fall in the combat for the legitimacy of my name and the honor of yours; and your conscience, that has already suffered so much on my account, would succumb to this new him anywhere." His political honors his wife s costume and manners, the beauty of his little boys, formed a piquant sauce for the Thanksgiving dinners of the congregation; and however people might differ in their opinions on these topics, there was one with regard to which they manifested a delightful manimity. viz: that the people of Maplehurst were quite as eligible to the highest political offices as anybody else.

'Squire Pepperell had not lived among us all his days for nothing. He had counted on ma-king this impression; therefore his face was so resplendent with self-satisfaction as he leaned over the gate to shake hands for the second time with the Doctor and his newly-married wife, as they passed, that the somewhat hard temper of the lady melted beneath its influence, backed by some very complimentary re-marks about the ladies in general, which he knew she would appropriate in particular, until she could not help observing to her husband, as they turned away, that she "wondered how people could call 'Squire Pepperell proud and hard; it must be all envy for he certainly was

most agreeable man. It is strange how opinions differ. Addy Greene had often seen the same expression on his face, even more unctuous and be-nign, when he had praised her scholarship in the village school, (for our people, as is often the case in village politics, when they found him eligible to one office, had nominated him to all others in their power, school visiter among the rest,) and more especially did his counte-nance assume this kind of radiant effulgence, when she met him on her way home from school, and he drew up his horse, and urged her to take a seat in his carriage, as he was going right past her house," while he scanned her slight but beautifully rounded figure, until the bright blood rose unconsciously to her cheek and temples, and she involuntarily fall him. But he had mistaken, had too little shrank away from him. But, then, Addy was

there by his gate, and let his eye range slowly over his broad acres, from Spencer's to the river. But as his giance swept along the winding course of the river, a change came over his spirit. There must always be some alloy in the most perfect earthly success—some drop of bitterness in the sweetest cup; and if Solomon of Israel found it so in the by-gone ages, why of Israel found it so in the by-gone ages, why should Solomon Pepperell be exempt pretty much the same thing now as then, we trow. And there, a full mile off, but just as plain to his eye as if it made a part of his door-yard, lay the small green meadow, the very thought of which filled him with heaviness and displeasure, and made his other possessions seem almost valueless in his eyes. It was like the vineyard of Naboth to Ahab, and look in your eyes; and now listen to me. he coveted it, not because it was "near his house." but because it notched right into his territories, and the possession of it would bring tempted to draw it to her bosom. them even with the river, to say nothing about quite well, grandfather, when summer comes, its being a most excellent bit of land. There it lay, its sere, brown slopes looking even sunny nor thirst any more. I think I shall die, grandand cheerful in that wintry atmosphere, and the dark frown deepened on his brow as he discerned, even at that distance, the figure of its owner, Nat Turner, who, poor and plagued and shiftless as he was, had had the impudence, more than once, not only to refuse his large offers for it, but to stand up and take an oath, to his very face, that "so long as he lived never should be or any of his race possess." lived, never should be or any of his race possess tired any more; and I don't know how that sunny remnant of the inheritance of his fathers; nor even after his death, if it lay in his power to prevent it." Inefficient as he was in most things, he kept this oath with dogged much; for I asked Mr. Geddes about it, and obstinacy. To be sure, when Nat's whole tribe he said that in a little while you would come of children took the scarlet fever, there was a to me if you were good; and I told him you fair prospect that he would be obliged to yield; were good, grandfather—very good."
but old Deacon Dudley stood ready to lend a While the little one spoke, the old man's but old Deacon Dudley stood ready to lend a helping hand; and the Doctor, like a "soft-hearted fool," as the Squire called him, gave hearted fool," as the Squire called him, gave in most of his bill, especially after little Nat died, so there was nothing left for him to do but frown and grate his teeth, and employ the little pettifogging lawyer who had recently come into the village, and rented an office of him, to get hold of some claim on Turner, if possible. The little man thought he had par-

tive goose, the remnants of pudding, and the broken vegetables, from which Sally Smart, the matron, had satisfied her own appetite, and permitted her husband and chilnren to do the same, before it was placed upon the paupers' table, could be considered worthy of that name—and the half dozen paralytic, rheumatic, broken-down souls, that made up the town poor, hobbled away from the table, some crouching over the ashes, and mumbling with toothless gums of the fine times they had when they were young. Two or three, who carried thankful hearts under all life's changes, lin-gered in the sunlight, to warm their frozen blood, and listen to old Nehemiah Tyler's account of the sermon, (for he was the only one of their number who had been able to go to church,) while one tall, gaunt, white-haired old man, who had lingered longest at the table although he seemed to cat little or nothing buttoned his neatly-brushed but threadbare coat around him, and hastily left the room.

"The old Colonel is in something of a hurry.

He might have staid and just had a sociable chat, seeing it's Thanksgiving," croaked old Grannie Bean, as she extended her skinny fingers for a pinch of Scotch snuff from the proffered box of one of her cronies.

"Mad-mad as a March hare," muttered

singly. "It's little I thought, when, a tailoress girl. I used to sew in his family week after week, and everything went on so prosperously and so happily that I sometimes envied them, that he would spend his last days in the poor-house—or myself, either, for that matter, she added, after a pause, as she looked down or her distorted hands.

"An' it's no ways likely you would, if John Morris had lived, or if you hadn't gone to work before you got over that dreadful fit of fever, returned old Grannie Bean. "You was most a dreadful sick person. But as for little Milly Gilbert, or Milly Lee, as the Colonel insists on calling her—for it's getting to be im-possible to make him understand that it isn't his Milly, who died away off yonder, when the child was born; (I argued with him yesterday about it, until I got out of all manner of padies without warning."

Leaving these worthies to their dispute about

omens and warnings." let us follow their to the forlorn chamber be better: for it were well if the unswept floor— the miserable bed—the tattered, stringless curtain before the window-the stained and dusty stand, holding cracked teacups and sticky-looking phials—the tarnished, broken-handled spoon, did not cause the most benevolent heart to turn away in disgust.

Aye, it was a poor, mean, miserable place: same disposition to make a deficiency of duty but so, also, was that stable at Bethlehem; and here, as there, lay a child—not watched over and guarded, alas! by that mother-love which hath lifted the curse from woman's discrowned brow, and was consecrated afresh in the perthat meek, transparent face, so thin and wan, speed or in the peculiar manner they desire. o patient, and serene, that looked out from those tumbled pillows, without feeling that prominent in the Convention, that I condemnsomething of the divine presence of Him who made that humble birthplace sacred to all time having written on the spur of the moment, and hair floating like a golden cloud above them. The old man spread his hoarded treasures | tially just. upon a clean bit of paper before her, and, ga-

in his broken, disjointed way. "Try a little bit of the w sent the dilapidated curtain floating banner-

like out into the room.
"Yes, I shall be well, quite well, then, grandfather, without doubt," said the little one, looking up in his face with a singular blending of tenderness and anxiety, sorrow and joy, on her wan face. "Sit close by me, grandfather," she said, after a pause-"close here, so that I can your hand is almost as cold as mine, she added, as with her little shrunken fingers she at-

wandering glance seemed to settle into one of calm intelligence, but it was only for a mo-ment: for now, with his gaunt hand passing caressingly over her golden locks, he said, eagerly, "Die! You are getting fidgety, little Milly. It's no wonder—in this cold room, seventy. I don't see how that can be," he went on, musingly, "for I was forty-four the day you was born, Milly—we were both born the 10th day of June, and—you are so little, child. I can't make it out; but then my head gets the chances in his favor.

CHAP. II.

Dinner was over at the alms-house—Thanks-giving dinner if the material seventy. I don't see how that can be," he went on, musingly, "for I was forty-four the day you was born, Milly—we were both born the 10th day of June, and—you are so little, child. I can't make it out; but then my head gets kinder confused sometimes. But we shall live a good while yet, Milly. You know what the Doctor says about the warm weather; he knows better than you. And who knows what may turn up before that in it, that this and all other evils will be separated from it without strife or division? Was better than you he fore that the lams house. where never a bit of sunshine comes; but old folks die first. See! I have lived to be over may turn up before that time? We may get back my property again," he added. getting up and walking the floor with excited steps; "we may be in our own house again, where the meanest room was better than this—my father than the step of ther's house—and then we'll see who will step before my Milly. No, no, child; if we die, if must be beneath our own roof— in the very room where we were born. It's strange how slow these lawyers are!" he said, musingly, as, almost exhausted by his vehemence, he again sank into a chair by her side. "It's more than a year, I think, since I spoke to Judge Kane about it, and it is not settled yet!"

TO BE CONCLUDED IN OUR NEXT.

me on the 11th day of last May, and asked me to accompany him to Eaton College, to see a curious bird's nest. We accordingly proceeded thither, and having passed through the beautiful chapel attached to that college, ascended the winding steps of the bell tower of the chapel. After getting to a considerable height, any fur ther progress was stopped by a sort of pillar built of sticks. The staircase was sufficiently

port of the nest. It was the eighth step below sed of a stack-like work of sticks. The nest then rested upon the top of it, and was perfectly secure. The labor which these very ingenious and industrious birds had bestowed in the collection of so large a mass of sticks must have been enormous. stance struck me as very curious. The entrance of the aperture in the wall was very narrow; the difficulty of conveying some of the larger sticks through it must have been consequently great. On examining the sticks, I found that each of them had been broken, or, rather cracked exactly in the centre, so that they could be doubled up. They were thus also the better adapted for the construction of the stack in

a compact form. \* I should add that the birds were occupied during seventeen I should add days in the performance of their laborious task. Jesse's Country Life.

LETTER FROM CINCINNATI.

CINCINNATI, June 16, 1852. To the Editor of the National Era .

To correct all misapprehension, I proper to say that my strictures in a late letter upon the temper exhibited in the Anti-Slavery Convention, which met here, were not designed to single out that body, or its individual members, as peculiarly obnoxious to the charge of intolerance, or the exhibition of an uncharitable spirit towards those differing with them, as the night. There were two corpse-lights in the candle last night, and I never knew that sign ful. You needn't shake your head, neighbor Tyler; for it's my firm belief that no person ings of others, which were just as open to anmadversion. The Convention which met here one year previous was quite as deserving of censure, and the same may be said of other meetings of Abolitionists elsewhere, and of whither he had hurried. We use the word forlorn, but perchance a stronger term would York. Of many of these it may be said, with too much truth, that they have been marked by the same spirit of sweeping denunciation of the American Churches; the same disposition to overlook the vast amount of good done ent day, which derive all their efficiency from the Evangelical Christianity of the age; the

views in regard to the Slavery question the sole test of personal piety, the deson of the Virgin Mother. No: there was no and of the character of a Christian church; love here save the dim flame which gleamed and to overlook all that has been done and is and flickered in the heart of a feeble, halfrazed old man; and yet, no one could gaze on mous evil, if it be not done with the railroad It was this spirit, which I perceived was

was here, casting into shade the miserable ac- not as fully in amplification and proof of my cessaries of the scene, by bright visions of the allegations as would have been desirable, was ternal home in heaven. A girlish, childish not the choicest, and some sentences were left face it was, of some eight years old or so, and very beautiful too, with its blue eyes, deep and that the censures bestowed upon the extreme clear as inland seas, and the mass of sunny views, and the temper in which they were advocated, in that Convention, were not substan-To the platform upon which the Convention zing wistfully into her eyes, pressed her to eat, in his broken, disjointed way.

met, I made no objection. Called in a catholic spirit with the best intentions, it was designed

little bit; wings are good for sick folks," he went on. "I remember, a bit of chicken's wing was the first thing they let your mother eat. true festival face (so to speak) for all time, if you could have seen the 'Squire, as he stood there by his gate, and let his eye range slowly over his broad acres, from Spencer's to the river. But as his glance swept slong the winding course of the river, a change came over his spirit. There must always be some alloy in the most perfect curtily specess—some drop of the word was the most perfect curtily specess—some drop of the warm weather comes you will be well; adequate proof, which led to much of the spirit of which I complain, and which deserve a more thorough discussion, uninfluenced by personalities, than they received, or are likely to receive, in such a gathering of ardent reformers. Without attempting to enter into any argument, I will refer to them specifically.

The charge was made again and again in every form of expression, that the Churches or rather the "Church organizations" of the land, were "wholly corrupt," "unworthy of confidence," were "not Churches of Christ," &c.; that it was the duty of all Anti-Slavery men to secede from them, to "come out" from their communion, and thus wash their hands of all participation in the sin of Slavery, for long as they remained in them. no mistake here, as the language employed was decided, and definite to the dullest apprehension. There was no labored attempt, it is true, to prove these positions; they were rather taken for granted, and so interwoven with the trains of thought of the speakers as to come. out incidentally in some form in most of the addresses. The old churches were uniformly spoken of as corrupt, apostate, hopelessly wed-ded to Slavery; the political parties placed in the same category, and secession, not purification or reformation, insisted upon as the sole

crimination was made in favor of those churches which have "taken a right position, have separated themselves from Slavery, and have borne a faithful testimony against this gigantic evil." What is meant by a right position, and a faithful testimony, no one who heard the debates in the Convention can doubt. Was it intended to except from his "richlymerited censure" the numerous church mem-bers and ministers who deplore the existence of Slavery; who do not apologize for it; who openly condemn it; who would rejoice in its speedy extinction; who entertain honest doubts as to the safety or propriety of instant emancipation, and cannot approve many of the measures proposed to accomplish it, but feeling that they cannot be personally responsible for the extinction of Slavery or its separation from the Church? Nay, verily. No one conversant with the views of the leading men there will pretend this. All those who do not consent to the propriety of the excision of every slaveholder, without regard to circumstances, from the church, or to secession from all churches that allow slaveholding as a duty all, indeed, who do not adopt in its length and breadth the line of policy which these men have marked out as the "right position," come within the range of their denunciations.

Now, I have nothing to say against the priety of adopting secession from a church or party, in order to promote more effectually the cause of Liberty. In practice, like yourself, I have sanctioned this course. But, as one who has no connection with any religious society teleprating Slavery and who long since requitolerating Slavery, and who long since repu-diated both the great political parties, controlled as they have always been by the Slave Power, and who, if compelled to choose between them would certainly be a non-voter, I accord for those who are sincerely Anti-Slavery in their feelings the same liberty I claim for myself. I may deem it my duty to aid in forming a purer church, but it by no means follows that it is "Whist, Grannie; he is worrying his life out over little Milly. Didn't you see, he scarcely saved it all for her. I saw him slip it into a paper, and put it under his coat. He thinks she could eat, poor thing, if she had anything cooked up nice," returned another.

"And how is the poor child, Mabel?" asked one of old Smith's audience, a patient, meekseyed looking woman, whose distorted limbs showed her to be a cripple. "I have not make a pillar of sticks on that identical step. The lock of the birds, which I will now endeavor accurately to describe. On the ledge of one of the narrow apertures for the admission of light, a pair of jackdaws had built their nest. The ledge, however, was so narrow that the nest had evidently an inclination inwards, and would probably, without some support, have and the choice of them is to be settled by every individual for himself, as in the far of God. Some of the best Anti-Slawry men in the country, those who originated the movement in favor the steps below. In order to obviate this difficulty, they contrived the following ingenious method of supporting the nest. As the staircase was a spiral one, the birds began to make a pillar of sticks on that identical fast fellowing and the duty of bearing a decided testimony against it, arises from the great and fundamental law—"Thou shalt love thy neighbor's duty. The wronglulness of slave-holding, and the duty of bearing a decided testimony against it, arises from the great and fundamental law—"Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself: but outward organizations, religious or political, are matters of expediency, and the choice of them is to be settled by every individual for himself, as in the far of God. Some of the best Anti-Slawry men in the court of the property individual for himself, as in the far of God. Some of the best Anti-Slawry men in the court of the property individual for himself, as in the far of God. Some of the best Anti-Slawry men in the court of the property in the court of the property individual for himself, as in t "And how is the poor child, Mabel?" asked one of old Smith's audience, a patient, meek-eyed looking woman, whose distorted limbs showed her to be a cripple. "I have not seen her for nearly a week; for this last storm has got into my bones, and I can't get up stairs for the life of me. I don't like to say much to the

quired that precise slope or angle for their pil- and it would be just as uncharitable and unar which was necessary for the effectual sup- just to attribute the conduct of those who have eschewed secession to a want of attachment to the opening, and from it the pillar was raised to a height of exactly ten feet, and was comporiews of duty, and, without attempting to deeide which are right, I state them to show that this is an open question, not by any means to be decided either way by any authority whatever, so as to make the course any one may take in regard to it a test of his Anti-Slavery orthodoxy. It is for attempting to do this, that the late Convention and others like it deserve the censure they have received.

There is a fallacy lying at the root of the system of measures I have taken exception to.

which seems plausible only at first view. It is that the individuals constituting a religious society are partakers in and personally responsible for the evils existing and tolerated within Nothing can be more clear to my mind, or more consonant with every correct view of Christian morality, than that they cannot be thus responsible while they are bearing a decided and open testimony before the world against these evils, and seeking in such a manner as their best judgment approves, to banish them eventually from that society and from the world. Without discussing the point, I remark that the whole stream of Scriptural authority is against this position. In times of great corruption and apostacy in the Jewish nation, the Prophets, from the age of Elijah to that of Isaiah and Ezra, while rebuking the sins of the people and laboring for the purification of the Jewish church, never seceded from it. Elijah tried secession on a small scale, but was re buked by God-"What doest thou here, Eli jah?"—and was sent back to labor for the reformation of the people. Christ himself, a model Reformer, never left the communion of the Jewish church, though the whole nation was far gone in error and corruption. On the very eve of his betrayal, he joined with his disciples in celebrating the Passover, a Jewish ordinance. And though the Apostles, after his ascension, organized a new one, it was not on account of the intolerable depravity of the Jewish church, but because the time had fully come for a new dispensation, to supersede with its clearer light and purer ritual that of Moses and the Prophets. Had not one tithe of the prevalent corruption at the time of Christ's advent existed—nay, more, had the Jewish church been a pure one, the Christian church would have taken its place, according to the

predictions of a long succession of prophets.

I need hardly refer to the great Reformers, Luther and Wesley; the one never left the Roman Church until he was excommunicated, and the other remained in the Church of Eng-land to his last day, laboring for its reformation, and to a great extent not in vain. the Evangelical churches of this country anything like as corrupt as the Romish or English churches at the above periods, it might be a question whether secession and a new organization were not best; but we believe no such assertions. The fact that they have not done what we think their duty to the slave, is not of itself sufficient proof. There are a dozen other branches of duty as deserving of consideration, in making up an estimate of Christian charac-ter, as that of faithfulness to freedom; and a sweeping condemnation of whole bodies of good men, without a charitable and fair estimate of their influence as a whole upon the world, is unfair and unjust.

I regret any harshness of expression in my last letter, not intending to censure any individuals, but must repeat my conviction that ted, merit censure, no matter by whom advo-

## STATE POLITICAL ANTI-SLAVERY CONVENTION

This Convention met at Indianapolis on the 17th of May, and continued in session three days. The following are some of the resolu

Resolved, That the Platform adopted by the Buffalo Convention in 1848 is our Platform, so far as it is applicable at the present time, and sets forth in detail our principles and meas

the recently-adopted Constitution of this State is not only a palpable violation, but a direct is not only a palpable violation, but a direct contradiction, of the principles avowed in the first article of that instrument, and of the prin-ciples avowed in the Federal Constitution, which declare that all men are created equal; that it is a most daring assumption of the pre-rogative of God, and an acknowledged attempt on the part of its framers to subvert His law

and regulations.

Resolved, That this is not less the native land of the negro than the white man, and that a proposition to remove, by direct or constructive force, the former, (to any other country.) is in every way as unjust and impudent as would be a proposition to remove the latter.

Resolved, That the "Fugitive Slave Act,

enacted by the last Congress, is in derogation of the genius of our free institutions, an unwarrantable encroachment upon the sovereignty of the States, a violation of the principles of natural and revealed religion, an assumption of legislative power without constitutional authority, and a monstrous exhibition of tyranny injustice, cruelty, and oppression.

Resolved, That the doctrine that any human

law is a "finality," and, as such, not subject to the examination of the people, and, if they de-sire it, to amendment or repeal, is not in ac-cordance with the faith and creed of the founders of our Government; and we, as friends of our country, denounce such doctrine as most dangerous to the liberties of the people. Resolved, That the Whig and Democratic organizations have outlived the questions which called them into life and organized their forces under their champions, and that they

have therefore no apology for their existence thus lengthened out beyond its time, but the traditionary reverence of their votaries for names under which they once battled. Resolved, That these organizations, headed by ambitious and mercenary leaders, are pitted against each other in a mere scramble for place and power; and that an unqualified and barefaced submission to the behests of slavery, in all things, is the indispensable and openly-avowed condition upon which their existence

Resolved, therefore, That these organizations are not parties, but factions, the great bane of republics; and that every lover of his country should labor by all honorable endeavors for their overthrow; not only because they are fac-tions, but because they necessarily involve their supporters in the guilt of slaveholding, and

Resolved. That our sympathies are with the oppressed of all nations; that the cause of Hungary is dear to us; and that wherever man is trodden down, and the tyrant is exalted, we love the eppressed and loathe the tyrant; and upon the same principle we plead the cause of the enslaved of our own land against their ty-

rannical holders.

Resolved, That the cause of oppression, well as the cause of freedom, is one, the world over, and that this truth has been amply illustrated by every step of the progress of Louis Kossuth through the slave States. Resolved, That the public lands of right be-

Resolved, That the public lands of right belong to the people, and should neither be sold for revenue, nor in any way allowed to speculators, but should only be granted, without charge, in limited quantities, to actual settlers.

Resolved, That our party is the party of the Constitution and the Union, of Freedom and of Progress; that it is opposed in principles and alims to sectionalism secression, and disminute.

aims to sectionalism, secession, and disunion, and knows no North, no South, no East, no West, but embraces with equal patriotic love the country, the whole country, one and indi-The Committee on Nominations made the following report; which was concurred in by the Convention:

For Governor-Andrew L. Robinson, of Van-